

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
AIKEN DIVISION

Billy Ray Mills, #183702,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	Civil Action No. 1:14-343-TMC
)	
v.)	ORDER
)	
Warden Leroy Cartledge,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

The petitioner is an inmate at the McCormick Correctional Institution of the South Carolina Department of Corrections and is seeking habeas corpus relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254.¹ Before the court is the magistrate judge’s Report and Recommendation (“Report”), recommending that the court grant the respondent’s motion for summary judgment, dismiss the petition with prejudice, and deny the petitioner’s motion to voluntarily dismiss his case as moot. (ECF No. 15.) The petitioner was advised of his right to file objections to the Report. (ECF No. 15 at 14.) However, the petitioner has not filed objections, and the time to do so has now run.

The Report has no presumptive weight and the responsibility to make a final determination remains with this court. *See Mathews v. Weber*, 423 U.S. 261, 270-71 (1976). In the absence of objections to the Report, this court is not required to provide an explanation for adopting the recommendation. *See Camby v. Davis*, 718 F.2d 198, 199 (4th Cir. 1983). Rather, “in the absence of a timely filed objection, a district court need not conduct a de novo review, but instead must only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record in order to

¹ In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and Local Civil Rule 73.02, DSC, this matter was initially referred to a magistrate judge.

accept the recommendation.” *Diamond v. Colonial Life & Acc. Ins. Co.*, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005) (quoting Fed. R. Civ. P. 72 advisory committee’s note).

After a thorough review of the applicable law, the record in this case, and the Report, the court finds no clear error and, therefore, adopts the Report and incorporates it herein by reference. Thus, the respondent’s motion for summary judgment (ECF No. 10) is **GRANTED**, the habeas petition is **DISMISSED** with prejudice, and the petitioner’s motion to voluntarily dismiss his case to attempt to exhaust his state claims (ECF No. 13) is **DENIED** as moot.

In addition, a certificate of appealability will not issue to a prisoner seeking habeas relief absent “a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.” 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2). A prisoner satisfies this standard by demonstrating that reasonable jurists would find both that his constitutional claims are debatable and that any dispositive procedural rulings by the district court are also debatable or wrong. *See Miller-El v. Cockrell*, 537 U.S. 322, 336 (2003); *Rose v. Lee*, 252 F.3d 676, 683 (4th Cir. 2001). In this case, the court finds that the petitioner has failed to make a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right. Accordingly, the court declines to issue a certificate of appealability.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Timothy M. Cain
United States District Judge

August 14, 2014
Anderson, South Carolina